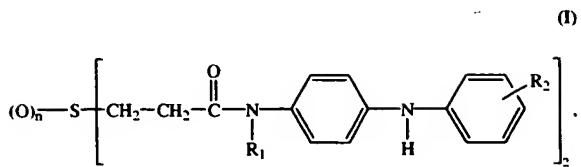


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula I



wherein

R_1 is $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$ alkyl,

R_2 is hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_4$ alkyl, and

n is the number 1 or 2.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R_1 is hydrogen or $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$ alkyl,

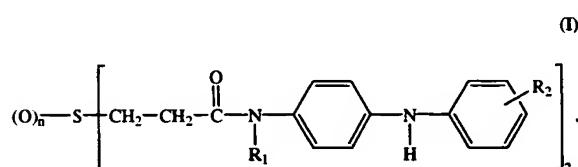
R_2 is hydrogen, and

n is the number 0 or 1.

3. A composition, which comprises

a) a carbon black-free elastomer subject to oxidative, thermal, light- or ozone-induced degradation, and

b) at least one compound of formula I



wherein

R_1 is $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$ alkyl,

R_2 is hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_4$ alkyl, and

n is the number 1 or 2.

4. A composition according to claim 3, wherein component (b) is at least one compound of formula I, wherein

R_1 is $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$ alkyl,

R_2 is hydrogen or methyl, and

n is the number 1.

5. A composition according to claim 3, wherein component (b) is at least one compound of formula I, wherein

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5 R_1 is $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$ alkyl,
 R_2 is hydrogen, and
 n is the number 1.

6. A composition according to claim 3, wherein component (a) is a nonblack polydiene vulcanise or a nonblack halogen-containing polydiene vulcanise.

7. A composition according to claim 3, wherein component (a) is a nonblack styrene/butadiene copolymer vulcanise.

10 8. A composition according to claim 3, which comprises additional additives besides components (a) and (b).

9. A composition according to claim 8, wherein the additional additives are one or more than one component from the group consisting of pigments, colourants, fillers, flow control agents, dispersants, plasticisers, vulcanisation activators, vulcanisation accelerators, vulcanising agents, charge control agents, adhesion promoters, antioxidants and light stabilisers.

15 10. A composition according to claim 8, wherein the additional additives are phenolic antioxidants, organic phosphites or phosphonites; and/or thiosynergists.

11. A composition according to claim 3, wherein component (b) is present in an amount of 0.2 to 10%, based on the weight of component (a).

20 12. A process for stabilizing and reducing the discolouration of carbon black-free elastomers, which comprises incorporating in, or applying to, said elastomers at least one compound of formula I

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(I)

$$(I) \quad \text{--S} \left[\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\overset{\text{O}}{\text{C}}-\text{N}(\text{R}_1)-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{N}(\text{H})-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{N}(\text{R}_2) \right]_2$$

wherein

R_1 is $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$ alkyl,
 R_2 is hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_4$ alkyl, and
 n is the number 1 or 2.

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